

A photograph of Jen Bricker, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a red sleeveless top and shorts, sitting in a wheelchair on a stage. She is smiling and looking to her right. The background is dark with red and white curved lines.

# Facing Your Obstacles

*Jen Bricker*

At [Leadercast Live 2018](#), Jen shared her story of being born without legs. After her birth, she was abandoned by her biological parents before being adopted by one of the 299 couples who were on a waiting list to adopt her. Though her life could have taken 298 other paths, Jen said she's confident that she landed in the right family. Her parents instilled self-worth and value into her life from day one, and they modeled good character for her and her three brothers.

Through their example, her parents taught her that **we all have the power to speak life or death into others with our words**. Each of us has an audience we're impacting, and once we become aware of it, we need to do something about it.

We all have talents, abilities and values, and though we can be deceived into thinking some are greater than others, Jen said **the truth is that we are all equal**. The same is true with obstacles. Jen's obstacle was being born without legs, but yours is something completely different—but both are still obstacles. We all have challenges to overcome, but also gifts to share, which means we're all meant to inspire and motivate, said Jen. It will look different for each of us, and that's OK.

### 3 Truths From Jen:

- 1) We have to **experience the everyday, ordinary moments of life to have big, explosive firework moments**.
- 2) **Everyone can motivate** because everyone has someone who identifies with them.
- 3) Use what you're good at and what you love to **change someone else's life**.